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1744

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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

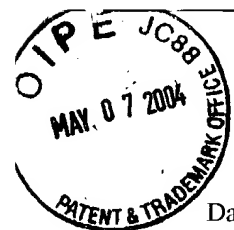
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	09/994,495	
		Filing Date	November 26, 2001	
		First Named Inventor	Ralph SOMACK	
		Group Art Unit	1744	
		Examiner Name	William H. Beisner	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4 and 1 cited document	Attorney Docket Number	5010-017	
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group		<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement Postcard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Form PTO/SB/08a and copy of one cited document Customer No. 35411
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT				
Firm or Individual name	Leonard D. Bowersox			
Signature				
Date	May 7, 2004			
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING				
Date: May 7, 2004 Label No. EV 348582158 US I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to Commissioner For Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.				
Type or printed name	Sandra Stocklinski			
Signature		Date	May 7, 2004	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 37 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO :Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Sandra Stocklinski

Name (Print)

Sandra Stocklinski

Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	: 09/994,495	Confirmation No.:	1098
Applicant	: SOMACK et al.		
Filed	: November 26, 2001		
TC/A.U.	: 1744		
Examiner	: William H. BEISNER		
Attorney Docket No.	: 5010-017		
Customer No.:	35411		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
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May 7, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form SB/08a. One copy of this document is attached.

Petition is hereby made for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application, and after issuance of an Office Action on the merits, but before any final Office Action or Notice of Allowance. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully

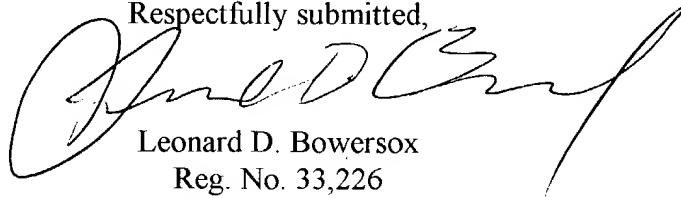
requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the document cited in the attached Form SB/08a be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies of the document as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should one or more of the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with this filing. However, if any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to Deposit Account No. 50-0925.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leonard D. Bowersox', is written over the typed name and registration number.

Leonard D. Bowersox
Reg. No. 33,226

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Enclosures: Form SB/08a (1 page) and 1 cited document

Landra Stocklinck